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NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANKLIN W. OLIN LIBRARY AT ROLLINS COLLEGE

April 2001

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ROLLINS COLLEGE

Library to Host 2nd Annual Book-A-Year Reception—

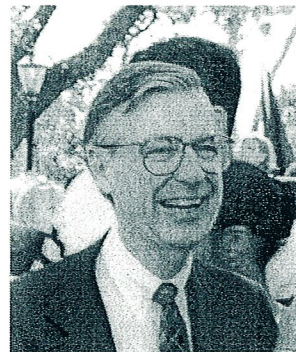
On April 20, 2001, at 5:30 p.m., the Olin Library will host its second annual reception to acknowledge Book-A-Year donors and honorees. Contributions to the Book-A-Year program are entrusted in an endowment fund and used for the purchase of books and other library materials. A plate with the names of both the donor and honoree is placed inside each book acquired with the fund.

Last spring's reception paid tribute to Book-A-Year recipients Payne Stewart, Florence Miller, Elizabeth Brothers '89HAL, and John Tiedtke. This year's event will highlight memorials for Susan Geisler '68, George E. Larsen, Payne Stewart, and memberships for Fred W. Hicks III '79 '80H.

The April 20 program will include a presentation by Professor Kathleen J. Reich on the library's special collections. Within one such collection are the "Day books," the only books to

have survived a fire that devastated a previous College library. The

Day books were not destroyed because they were in borrowers' hands and not on the premises when the fire occurred. The collections also house a fascinating array of items ranging from a lock of Napoleon Bonaparte's hair to a pair of shoes and a sweater belonging to Mr. Fred Rogers. Selected items from Olin's special collections will be on display that evening.



Mister "Fred" Rogers



Payne Stewart

Guests attending the reception will receive a "thank-you" gift of note cards imprinted with a bookplate previously used by the library. These cards have been produced by the library staff especially for the occasion. Musical entertainment will be provided by Rosalind Beck, principal harpist of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. —RB

Memberships and Memorials—

You can honor or memorialize a friend, relative, or member of the campus community by sponsoring a Book-A-Year Endowment. For details, contact:

Robert R. Cummins, Esquire, Director of Planned Giving
Rollins College, 1000 Holt Avenue - 2724

Winter Park, FL 32789

phone: 407-646-2606; email: rcummins@rollins.edu

Director's Notes—

In a recent *Library Trends* article on professionalism and the future of librarianship, Andrew Abbott describes the library profession as largely influenced by external forces. The most powerful of these at present is technological change. Indeed, a number of library schools have changed their names to schools of information science, and librarians are often referred to as information specialists. We have all heard the horror stories (always told in hindsight) of industries and professions that did not adapt to change and of individuals who ask, in response to change, "who moved my cheese?" I believe however, that academic librarians are well grounded in our role as educators. We value creativity, scholarship, and the development of new skills for preserving, accessing, and evaluating information.

In the Olin Library the research interests of our librarians are focused on a number of areas, related both to the library profession and to our subject specialties. Professor Carolyn Carpan has conducted extensive research in women's studies and young adult literature. Her specific areas of study include women's health issues, girls' series books, Canadian writers, and young adult romance literature. She has recently completed and submitted "Revising Sweet Valley High: From Romance to Reality" and "A Content Analysis of Social Construction of Endometriosis in the Popular Press." Professor Wenxian Zhang's article "Building Partnership in Liberal Arts Education: Library Team Teaching at Rollins College", has been accepted for publication in *RSR: Reference Service Review*. This essay is one in a series of studies by Professor Zhang on reference pedagogy. Professor Kate Reich is completing her research on single women who migrated from Germany to Namibia during the last decades of the nineteenth century and early years of the twentieth century. Her research was conducted in Namibia and at the Bundesarchiv in Berlin. Professor Bill Svitavsky's "Geek Culture: An Annotated Interdisciplinary Bibliography" will be appearing in the June 2001 issue of *Bulletin of Bibliography*. Bill is also developing a web page highlighting the college's M.P. Shiel collection, and he will be conducting further research on the works of Shiel.

In the past year, Olin librarians have attended a number of conferences and instructional sessions to keep current with changes in our field. Naomi Harrison, Bill Svitavsky and Wenxian Zhang participated in a series of workshops on implementing Web-CT for library instruction. In the fall term, the library offered its first course in Information Fluency, which was taught using a combination of online and in-class sessions. Librarians present information and teach classes using PowerPoint, Excel, and Word, and we publish online at our Web Site and in international journals and databases. In the past year we evaluated over 15 online resources and selected those most appropriate to our curriculum. Change has made our lives interesting and exciting, and we wish to convey that excitement to our patrons.

Donna Cohen

I.T. Certificate Program—

The Users Services division of Information Technology has awarded several Rollins College Information Technology Certificates for the completion of course work in the computer software Certificate Program. Each certificate consists of five courses that can be taken over a period of time. The programs are in:

- Word
- Web design
- Excel
- Access reporting
- Desktop publishing
- Presentation graphics

These classes offer a professionally rewarding option to staff, as well as good support for departments using these functions in day-to-day work.



The following Staff and Students have received certificates: Marina Sobolevskaya, Olin Library Circulation Specialist; A. Carolyn Carpan, Olin Library Assistant Professor; Debra Callahan, Development; Dena Bourgeois, Information Technology; Angela Micalizio, Financial Aid Advisor in Student Financial Aid; Mary Kathryn Kaye, Development; Evonne Samuels, Holt - Graduate - MCCT.

To sign up for a course, please go to <http://www.rollins.edu/it/cert.html>.

—LW

Ten Curiosities in the Olin Library Archives—

- 1 The Thomas Bible, which Union officers touched when they retaken their oath of loyalty after the secession of the South.
- 2 Holinshed's *History of England* a parchment bound, handwritten tome. The Holinshed was one of Shakespeare's sources for his history plays.
- 3 Signatures of historic European rulers, including one of Louis XIV.
- 4 A collection of miniature books, contained in leather caskets.
- 5 A spike that was used to fasten a rail on the Dinky Line, a railroad that connected Orlando with Oviedo and ran right through the Rollins campus.
- 6 The signatures of the Presidents of the United States from George Washington to Ronald Reagan.
- 7 Ancient cuneiforms.
- 8 A lock of Napoleon Bonaparte's hair thought to have been cut off by his barber in Elba.
- 9 A graduation dress worn by Clara Guild, one of the first graduates of Rollins College.
- 10 The Day books, a collection of books with the Day bookplate, an early gift upon which the library collection of the College was built. —DS

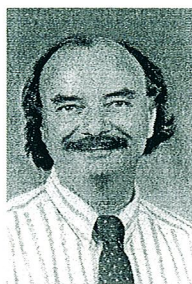
Books That Made a Difference—

Books are a sanctuary for the soul, if one dares to be open to their suggestions. At first I was tempted to tell you that Archibald MacLeish's play *JB*, based on the equally transformative Book of Job, altered my life. This script was but a step in my liberation from a comfortable child's world. Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* was also my first shattering transport around the world.

It is only by reading that we are truly free to escape from the prejudices that we are raised with, and no other work has so demonstrated that to me more than Octavio Paz's *The Labyrinth of Solitude*, for both its beauty and its profound revelations of the human soul struggling to make sense of fractured modernity. Written in Spanish by Mexico's great intellectual in the 1950s and 1960s, this work defies simple classification. Paz's work defies classification because it describes the cultural limbo of young Mexicans in Los Angeles, comments on the lasting Indian influence on Latin American character, and exposes the mythology we in the dominant West live by.

Paz, who was the Mexican ambassador to India after he wrote this collection of evocative commentaries on what it means to be alone, uses a fantastic image. He conceives of language, time, and the unfolding of human personality through expression in ritual observance, outbursts, and passion as a maze of symbols with recurrent meaning for those sensitive enough to interpret. But he also warns that the metaphor may elude us as much as we may seek to unravel its context.

Perhaps a handful of works, such as Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* or Jiddu Krishnamurti's *Freedom From the Known*, have sent my spirits and imagination so far from my safe moorings as has Octavio Paz. Were I in a library and a fire or bombardment broke out, I would hustle to save Paz's, Whitman's, MacLeish's, and Krishnamurti's works because some words are worth more than a life. Some books are more valuable than even all the lives they may touch, transform, and transport to a more meaningful existence. For as St. John is said to have written, "in the beginning was the word . . . — Prof. Joseph Siry



Prof. Joe Siry

Reading Jan Myrdal's *Report from a Chinese Village* turned my world upside down. Myrdal, a Swedish journalist, recorded the voices of Chinese peasants in a straightforward yet compelling manner, offering me my first glimpse of Chinese culture. I never imagined that people living on the same planet as I did could have an understanding of the world that was so dramatically different from my own.

Though Chinese views of the world are different from the ones I grew up with, I wouldn't say these views are utterly unfathomable. China is often portrayed as an inscrutably mysterious land, but I really don't think it's any more mysterious than, say, Florida. Much of its reputation for mystery comes, I believe, from Daoist philosophers like Chuang Tzu. The *Book of Chuang Tzu* is a hodgepodge of somewhat contradictory musings and conversations that periodically revisit the theme of logic's limitations. Through a scattershot discourse that mixes logic and anti-logic, Chuang Tzu suggests that if we surrender ourselves entirely to logical thinking, we will lose much more than we gain. I don't know if it's accurate to characterize *Chuang Tzu* as a book of inscrutable mystery, but it's alluring enough to me that I expect I will return to enjoy its ramblings for as long as I am able to read.

— Prof. Robert Moore



Prof. Robert Moore

Libraries in Ancient Egypt—

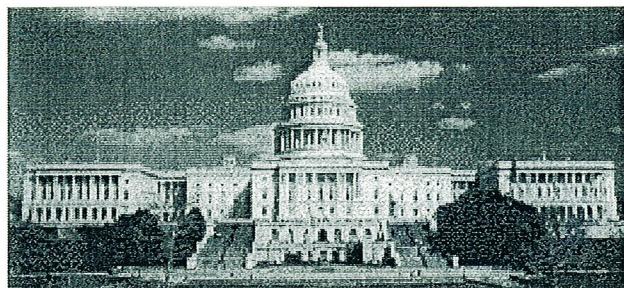
An ancient Egyptian text tells the story of a magical book stolen from a library. This book had been created by Thoth, the god of writing and learning, and the thief who stole the book soon met a terrible death by drowning. A second thief stole the book once again, and he, too, died as a consequence. Finally, the book was returned to its rightful storage place and the curse was lifted.

In his lecture "Ancient Egyptian Archives and Libraries," Professor John Baines joked that this story might be particularly satisfying for librarians. Dr. Baines, a professor of Egyptology at Oxford University's Oriental Institute, was the speaker for this year's Annual Olin Library Lecture on March 27th. An audience of 150 gathered in the Bush Auditorium to hear Dr. Baines discuss the role of written texts and libraries in ancient Egyptian culture.

Illustrating his lecture with numerous slides, Dr. Baines considered libraries as collections of texts and artifacts, contemplating the written works assembled rather than the buildings. Ancient Egyptians, he said, preserved writings for reasons ranging from mundane record keeping to entertaining fiction, and sometimes even ascribed magical properties to the texts themselves. The Egyptians inscribed hieroglyphics on a variety of media. Papyrus, the most commonly used medium, has survived better than more prestigious leather or wood documents. But even papyrus has survived only in the desert, not in the more populated and more humid Nile Valley.

Professor Baines fascinated the audience with his lecture and welcomed questions afterwards. Interim Provost Patricia Lancaster provided opening remarks, and Director of Libraries Donna Cohen introduced Dr. Baines. Visiting Rollins as a Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Dr. Baines also spoke to Master of Liberal Studies Program students in Dr. Wettstein's course on "Religion and Western Culture."

—WLS



Washington Comes to Olin Library—

Olin Library, Government Documents Department, will host a workshop presented by the Government Printing Office (GPO) on May 30, 2001 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Topics will include GPO Access components, interfaces, general searching strategies, and Web interfaces. Participants will learn about accessing:

- Census 2000
- Public Laws
- Supreme Court Decisions
- Presidential papers
- Privacy Act
- Federal Forms
- Whom to contact
- Maps & Atlases
- National Archives
- And much more...



Everyone is invited. We do have limited seating, so call the library assistant at x2676 to reserve your seat.

A special thank you to all faculty members for their participation in our recent survey. The survey provided a base of information to help guide an in-depth assessment and planning effort aimed at improving the utilization of government documents resources. The findings revealed the need to effectively publicize the abundant resources of our Federal Documents Collection and the Federal Depository Library Program. —NH/DB

Preservation Pointers—

At the Olin Library, the staff maintains a serious commitment not only to the development of the collections, but also to their preservation. To extend the lives of the books held in the library, simple guidelines must be followed. Such guidelines, presented below, may be helpful in preserving books of all kinds and are recommended for book collectors interested in extending the lives of their books.

- Keep books away from prolonged exposure to light. Direct exposure to the sun and fluorescent light is particularly harmful.
- Do not use metal clips or adhesives on the pages of the books.
- If books get wet, freezing them will help to prohibit mold growth. If air drying is necessary, be sure to stand the book upright and fan the pages open.
- When removing books from a bookshelf, be sure not to pull the book from the top of the spine. Instead, push the neighboring books outward and take hold of the desired book from the middle of the spine.
- Books should be shelved straight up, not leaning or angled against each other. Oversized books should be laid horizontally in small stacks.
- Books should not be cramped on the bookshelves, but instead positioned comfortably next to each another.

—DS



ROLLINS COLLEGE

OLIN LIBRARY

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Archives	646-2421

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Friday	8:00 am	5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am	5:00 pm
Sunday	Noon	Midnight